

**VIRGINIA HIGHLANDS AIRPORT AUTHORITY  
REGULAR MEETING**

**Members Present:** Edward "Earl" Maine  
Frank Sims  
Stephen Lowe  
Andy Puckett  
David G. Anderson  
Dr. James E. Baker

**Members Absent:** John R. White

**Guest Present:** See Attachment

The Virginia Highlands Airport Authority Board of Directors met on Monday, December 12, 2016 at 6:02 P.M. in conference room "A" of the Terminal Building. Mr. Maine, Vice-Chairman, determined that a quorum of the Board was present and called the meeting to order. Also present were Mickey Hines, Airport Manager, Jim Elliott, Airport Attorney, Sheri Hiter, Attorney and Amber Miller, Administrative Assistant.

Mr. Maine asked Mr. Berry to address the Board.

Mr. Berry spoke about a future joint project with the City and County for an animal shelter potentially using airport land located on Providence Rd.

Mr. Byron Ashbrook addressed the Board with the need for a new animal shelter and why Providence Rd would make a good location.

Mr. Berry wanted to get the idea to the Board for future meetings.

Discussion ensued.

Mr. Maine called for approval of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting November 14, 2016.

Mr. Anderson moved to approve the Minutes of November 14, 2016. Mr. Sims seconded the motion. Mr. Lowe abstained. The motion carried.

Mr. Maine called for approval of the Minutes of the November 30, 2016 Meeting with APCo and Washington County Board of Supervisors.

Mr. Lowe moved to approve the Minutes of November 30, 2016. Mr. Anderson seconded the motion. Mr. Puckett abstained. The motion carried.

Mr. Maine called for Attorney, Sheri Hiter, to present a resolution in reference to APCo's powerline project.

Ms. Hiter presented the Board with a resolution recommending “Underground Option #3” as proposed from APCo’s presentation on November 30, 2016 to place the powerline underground.

Discussion ensued.

Mr. Maine called for a motion to be made to accept the resolution as presented.

Mr. Lowe moved to approve the resolution as presented. Mr. Puckett seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Discussion ensued.

Mr. Maine called for Public Comments.

None.

Mr. Maine called for the Financial Report.

Mr. Puckett gave the Financial Report.

Mr. Maine called for the Manager’s Report.

Mr. Hines gave the Manager’s Report.

Mr. Hines reported Worldwide Equipment Enterprises had responded to the Airports letter requesting additional information with only a plat and did not make any type of monetary offer.

Mr. Hines gave an update on the FAA CIP Plan.

Discussion ensued.

Mr. Maine called for the Operations Committee Report.

Mr. Maine stated that the Operations Committee had not met.

Mr. Maine called for the Development Committee Report.

Mr. Lowe stated that the Development Committee had not met.

Mr. Maine called for Unfinished Business.

Mr. Hines gave an update on the fabrication of the State Police Hangar door.

Discussion ensued.

Mr. Maine called for New Business.

Mr. Hines gave an update about a scheduled conference call in reference to the reimbursement of purchase of the Gent property.

Mr. Hines stated that in reference to Mr. Berry's request about the site for a future animal shelter, the airport would have to inquire further into Federal Regulations pertaining to the release of property.

Mr. Lowe requested Mr. Hines to obtain information about the number of properties surrounding the site.

No Closed Session needed.

Mr. Puckett moved to adjourn. Mr. Anderson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 6:55 P.M.

  
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David Anderson, Secretary

  
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Edward "Earl" Maine, Vice-Chairman

## **RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT APCO'S UNDERGROUND OPTION 3**

Whereas, Appalachian Power Company filed an application with the Virginia State Corporation Commission for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity for authority to construct and operate its proposed South Abingdon 138kV Transmission Line Project; and

Whereas, APCo's preferred route for the transmission line would pass less than a mile from the end of Runway 24 at Virginia Highlands Airport; and

Whereas, Virginia Highlands Airport Authority, Washington County, and the Town of Abingdon intervened as participants in the SCC proceeding to oppose the preferred route because it would negatively impact aviation safety and air traffic volumes at the Airport, impair the economic development value of the Airport to the County and Town, violate local Airport Safety Zoning Ordinances, and infringe upon aviation and obstruction removal easements owned by VHAA; and

Whereas, in an effort to settle the dispute and to expedite the SCC's consideration of its application, APCo recently presented to VHAA, the County, and the Town various alternatives to the preferred route. These alternatives follow the same route but utilize undergrounding or grading to mitigate the negative impacts of the transmission line; and

Whereas, APCo has requested that VHAA, the County, and the Town evaluate the alternatives presented and, if they determine that one of the alternatives fully addresses their concerns, publicly support this alternative before the SCC Staff and the SCC; and

Whereas, APCo has proposed Underground Option 3 as follows:

- Install the proposed 138kV double circuit transmission line underground (from proposed structures 9 to 18)
- Approximately 4,500 ft. of underground transmission line (impacts six landowners – already impacted by overhead option)
- Crosses underneath W. Main Street, Old Jonesboro Road, and Jonesboro Road
- Riser structures will be located in the vicinity of proposed structures 9 and 18
- Addresses the FAA Part 77.19(a) Horizontal Surface penetration
- Addresses the One Engine Inoperable (OEI) surface concern

As quoted from APCo's presentation on Conceptual Design Options presented at County, Town, VHAA Joint Meeting on November 30, 2016:

It is hereby resolved that:

After investigation and consideration of each option presented, VHAA has selected Underground Option 3 as the option that most fully addresses and mitigates its concerns about the project.

VHAA will present its recommendation to the County and Town. If VHAA, the County, and the Town reach consensus in their support for Underground Option 3, VHAA will take the actions necessary to support APCo in its presentation of Underground Option 3 to the SCC Staff and the SCC to replace the previous "preferred route."

VHAA's support of Underground Option 3 is contingent upon all of the following conditions:

- APCo will install the proposed 138 kV double circuit transmission line underground for approximately 4,500 feet from proposed Structure 9 to proposed Structure 18 (inclusive of these structures), as shown on the attached exhibit prepared by APCo.
- No transmission structure or line will penetrate any Federal Aviation Administration 14 C.F.R. part 77 obstruction standard.
- The transmission structures and lines will not be constructed above-ground in the area of the Runway 24 approach surface or Runway 6 departure surface.
- No transmission structure or line will violate the Airport Safety Overlay Zones of the County or the Town.
- No transmission structure or line will penetrate any aviation or obstruction removal easement owned by VHAA.

VHAA's support is further conditioned upon SCC approval of Underground Option 3. VHAA reserves the right to oppose any other route or design alternative and to present any legal or factual defenses to these other route options to protect the Airport and its airspace. VHAA does not waive any position that it has taken in any prior document or exhibit filed in the SCC proceeding or submitted to the FAA.

The Airport Manager and legal counsel are directed to take the necessary actions to support Underground Option 3 before the SCC.

The foregoing resolution was adopted on the 12th day of December, 2016, by a vote of 6 for and 0 against, a quorum present and voting:

  
Secretary